These goods comprise of different grocery goods such as Tinned items, Ketchups, Syrups, Oils, Tea etc.

(d) and (e) Super Bazar has reported that the period of damaged goods ranges between two to seven years preceding the year 1990. No enquiry has been conducted to pinpoint individual responsibility pertaining to damaged goods. The Super Bazar deals in thousand of consumer items including edible items which have short shelf life. Some goods get damaged, shop soiled and remain unsold over a period of time. These goods as per practice in retail trade organisations have to be disposed off through discount or through public auctions depending upon the condition of the goods. Edible items which on account of deterioration in their quality become health hazard and are declared unfit for human consumption are destroyed and their value is written off. The amount of damaged goods compared to the total turnover of the period to which these goods pertain is very small. On account of the above reasons and being a part of any retail trade activity of such a magnitude that the Competent authority, while approving the disposal of damaged goods, had not considered necessary to go into the question of fixing individual responsibility. However, in future, if any individual or individuals are found responsible for causing damage to the goods or causing loss to Super Bazar, appropriate administrative action will be taken against the concerned employee.

(f) Replacement of goods by the manufacturer/supplier is a continuous process. Damaged goods worth Rs. 2.88.205.45 were got replaced from the suppliers free of cost in the above period.

Use of Heavy Water and Uranium Oxide by Chemical Engg. Deptt. of Regional Engineering College, Durgapur

3676. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that heavy water and Uranium Oxide were used in the Chemical Engineering Department of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry to know from where both the chemicals were procured since both are strategic and are not available in the market;

(c) if so, the outcome of the enquiry and the action taken in the matter; and

(d) whether any other such incidents have come to the notice of the Government; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Small quantities of heavy water and uranium dioxide are used for research purposes in laboratories in the country. These are insignificant quantities compared to the amount used in the Nuclear Power programme. The department itself has released small quantities of heavy water for research purposes.

[*Translation*]

Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 1991

3677. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the date of Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination, 1991, which was earlier cancelled due to the leakage of question papers;

(b) if so, when the said examination is likely to be held; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government for conducting the examination smoothly?